

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-16, 18-21 and 23-26

These claims have been amended to limit them to subject matter deemed to be allowable by the examiner. Specifically, claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitation of claim 2 and thereby represents allowable claim 2 rewritten in independent form. Likewise, claim 26 represents allowable claim 17 rewritten in independent form and claim 21 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 22, thereby representing claim 22 rewritten in independent form.

New Claim 27

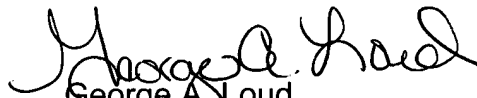
New claim 27 represents original claim 1 with the additional limitation defining the notch in the hub as axially overlapping the pinion. To the extent that the rejection over Katou may be applicable to newly presented claim 27 it is respectfully traversed.

Fig. 4 shows the axial length "m" of "notch" 106 and Fig. 3 shows the circumferential dimension "e" of notch 106. As described in paragraph [0042] of the specification, the pinion is inserted with its shaft in holes 107a and 107b. Thus, it can be appreciated that the gap 106 of dimension "m" axially overlaps the pinion p. As shown in Fig. 3 and as taught in paragraph [0041], the width "e" of notch 106 is larger than the diameter of pinion p to "allow the pinion p to be inserted into or removed from the space between the carrier cover 52 and the carrier body 74." Applicants cannot find any notch in Fig. 1 of Katou which has a circumferential dimension larger than the

diameter of a pinion and/or an axial dimension which overlaps a pinion.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,


George A. Loud
Reg. No. 25,814

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LORUSSO & LOUD
3137 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22305

(703) 739-9393